

City of
Cambridge



POLICE DEPARTMENT



Crime Report

2004



Third Quarterly Report
Covering January 1st - September 30th, 2004

Statistics, Descriptions and Analysis Covering Part I and II Crimes	Cambridge Neighborhood Statistics
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Crime reports are now available online at www.cambridgepolice.org

CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2004 THIRD QUARTERLY

CRIME REPORT

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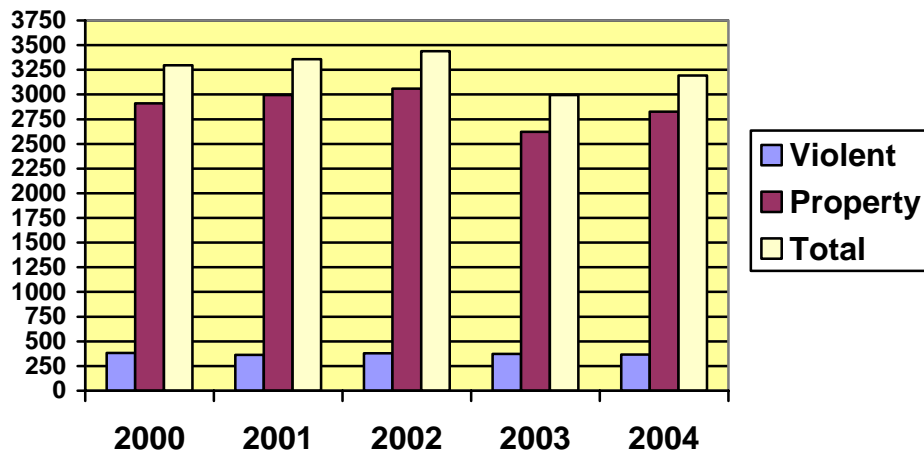
Crimes Reported in Cambridge

January 1 to September 30, 2004

Part I Crime	2001 1/1-9/30	2002 1/1-9/30	2003 1/1-9/30	2004 1/1-9/30	% Change 03-04
Murder	1	5	2	0	Inc.
Rape	10	10	7	10	Inc.
Stranger	2	2	1	2	Inc.
Non-Stranger	8	8	6	8	Inc.
Robbery	125	133	163	165	+1%
Commercial	22	27	28	45	+61%
Street	103	106	135	120	-11%
Agg. Assault	226	231	201	190	-5%
Burglary	479	569	448	506	+13%
Commercial	98	128	113	83	-27%
Residential	381	441	335	423	+26%
Larceny	2109	2143	1851	1991	+8%
Building	394	403	403	437	+8%
Fm. Motor Vehicle	538	561	487	548	+13%
Person	334	296	239	254	+6%
Bicycle	244	227	169	195	+15%
Shoplifting	342	349	265	289	+9%
Residence	122	158	167	173	+4%
MV Plate	75	76	63	45	-29%
Services	21	23	26	22	-15%
Misc.	39	50	32	28	-13%
Auto Theft	407	347	324	329	+2%
Total Violent	362	379	373	365	-2%
Total Prop.	2995	3059	2623	2826	+8%
Index Total	3357	3438	2996	3191	+7%

*Note: percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to lead to a statistically misleading percentage.

5 Year Crime Comparison January - September



First Nine Months in Review

Over the first three quarters of 2004, there have been 195 additional index crimes reported in Cambridge when compared with the same time period last year. The increase from 2996 crimes between January and September of 2003 to 3191 incidents in the first nine months of this year translates into a 7% rise in serious crime.

Further analysis reveals that there was a 2% decline in violent crime with eight fewer crimes recorded in 2004. Property crime increased 8% over the first three quarters of 2004.

The increase in property crime was driven by sharp inclines in housebreaks (+26%), and larceny from motor vehicles (+13%). These increases should be tempered by the fact that the 2003 third quarter crime totals for both housebreaks and larceny from motor vehicles were at their lowest recorded points in over a decade.

The 61% increase in commercial robbery can be attributed to a dramatic surge in note-passing bank robbers and a series of gas station and taxicab stickups in August.

A murder has not been recorded in Cambridge in 2004. The last murder registered in the City was on November 27th, 2003.

Crimes Reported in Cambridge

January 1 to September 30

Part II Crime	2003 1/1-9/30	2004 1/1-9/30	% Change 03-04
Narcotics	110	91	-17%
Malicious Destruction Total	713	658	-8%
Car Window	165	134	-19%
Car (Other)	126	109	-13%
Graffiti	50	74	48%
Pinstriping	65	48	-26%
Tire Slashing	93	111	19%
Business Window	52	30	-42%
Business (Other)	33	31	-6%
Attempted Theft	35	22	-37%
House Window	32	27	-16%
Residence (Other)	54	53	-2%
Revenge	8	19	138%
Fraud Total	339	335	-1%
Embezzlement	3	7	133%
Counterfeiting	7	9	29%
Identity Theft	62	68	10%
Forgery/ Uttering Total	247	226	-9%
Application	2	5	150%
Bad Check	15	13	-13%
Forged Check	59	53	-10%
ATM/Credit Card	159	139	-13%
Miscellaneous Forgery	12	16	33%
Con Game Total	20	25	25%
Big Carrot Con	4	6	50%
Utility Impostor Con	3	3	No change
Pigeon Drop Con	3	2	-33%
Psychic Con	2	1	-50%
Miscellaneous Con games	8	13	63%
Sex Offenses Total	68	78	15%
Annoying & Accosting	13	11	-15%
Indecent Assault	8	24	200%
Peeping & Spying	8	8	No change
Prostitution and Soliciting	3	1	-67%
Obscene Phone Calls	11	10	-9%
Indecent Exposure	25	24	-4%
Disorderly Conduct	35	29	-17%
Drinking in Public	34	26	-24%
Extortion/Blackmail	1	3	200%
Hit & Run Accidents	505	476	-6%
Kidnapping	2	0	-100%
Liquor Violations	1	4	300%
OUI	46	49	7%
Threats	264	279	6%
Traffic Arrests	80	94	18%
Trespassing	67	47	-30%
Weapons Violations	13	23	77%
TOTAL Part II Crimes	2280	2192	-4%

First Nine Months in Review

There were 88 fewer Part II crimes in the first nine months of this year as opposed to last. This represents a 4% decrease overall.

Smashed car windows are the most commonly reported type of **malicious destruction** incidents seen. This crime is down 19% from last year.

Tire slashings increased by 19% over last year, partially driven by a spree of tire slashings that struck Cambridge in September, with 32 incidents reported (23 in Cambridgeport) over one weekend. The incidents were clustered from around midnight-2 am.

"Revenge" related incidents increased to over double last year's number, consisting mainly of incidents between neighbors and families.

Indecent assault incidents are up 200% over last year at this time, driven mainly by two groping patterns in Harvard Square in the first few months of the year. The arrest of a Harvard University custodian interdicted this early pattern.

Four individuals were arrested for perpetrating **con games**; in three incidents, the suspects tried to sell televisions or laptops for extremely low prices, but did not produce the merchandise after money was exchanged.

Weapons violations include illegal possession, discharge of weapon and bomb threats. There were 14 reports of gunshots over the first three quarters of the year; in seven of these reports, casings were found at the scene. Four weapons violation arrests were for illegal **gun possession**, two were for possession of a **knife**.

2004 QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

Murder:

- There were no murders recorded in Cambridge in the first nine months of 2004. The last murder registered in the City was the Toomey/DiBenedetto case on November 27, 2003.

STATUS OF 2003 MURDERS:

- Accused killer Anthony DiBenedetto may face life in prison with no chance of parole for the slaying of Mary Toomey, 75, in November 2003. DiBenedetto, 46, was indicted by a grand jury at a closed proceeding Jan. 20th.
- Markendy Jean of Malden was identified as the prime suspect responsible for the shooting death of a man on June 8th near Porter Square. Jean turned himself over to the authorities in the early morning hours of July 3, 2003 and is awaiting trial.
- Alexander Pring-Wilson, arrested for stabbing a local Cambridge teen last April, was found **guilty of manslaughter** and was sentenced to 6-8 years in prison. An appeal has been filed.

Rape:

- **Acquaintance Rapes** are non-domestic rapes committed by someone who knows the victim. They include rapes of co-workers, schoolmates, friends, and other acquaintances, including “date rapes.” **Five** of the rapes in 2004 fell into this category.
- **Blitz Rapes** are stranger rapes in which the rapist assaults the victim on the street with no prior contact. Generally, the suspect “comes out of nowhere.” **There was one such incident** in May of 2004 that fell into this category.
- **Contact Rapes** are stranger rapes in which the suspect contacts the victim and tries to gain his/her confidence before assaulting him/her. Contact rapists typically pick up their victims in bars, lure them into their cars or houses, or otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault. The **one** attempted rape reported in 2004 falls into this category. In this incident, which occurred in July, her neighbor assaulted the victim during a home invasion.
- **Domestic Rapes** involve rapes between spouses, romantic partners, and family members. **Three** of the reported incidents in 2004 fell into this category.

Robbery:

- Of the 45 commercial robberies that occurred since January 1st, 17 occurred in the third quarter.
- The number of commercial robberies has risen sharply compared to previous years. There were 13 over the summer between June - August 2004, compared to 8 last summer. These include a string of gas station robberies, as well as cab holdups at the end of August throughout the City.
- The area surrounding Central Square experienced a pattern of street robberies that began in the 1st quarter and continued into the 2nd quarter. There were six robberies within blocks of each other on Pearl, Magazine and Lawrence Streets; victims were threatened with guns in four incidents. This pattern slowly dissipated with the arrests of key suspects.
- There were 35 street robberies in the third quarter.

Burglary:

- Cambridge recorded 27% fewer **Commercial Burglaries** over the first three quarters of 2004 compared to last year.
- The only potential pattern identified in the first half of the year included sporadic Sunday night breaks into offices in the 600 block of Massachusetts Avenue, which was active in the early spring but has since dissipated.
- A string of burglaries struck businesses along the 700 block of Massachusetts Avenue in the last weeks of July into August. Access was gained via rear doors and cash boxes and cash from registers were targeted.
- **Housebreaks** increased 26% in the first three quarters of this year compared to last year. This increase is driven by patterns, which emerged in the first few months of the year between Central and Inman Squares.
- The arrest of an East Cambridge resident helped to dissipate an emerging pattern that in that neighborhood in late September. **See the Housebreak Pattern Review on page 5 for more information on housebreaks throughout the year.

Larceny:

- Larceny overall has increased 8% since last year. The most significant increase was in **larcenies from motor vehicles**.
- The parking lot of Fresh Pond Mall emerged as a hotspot for **larceny from motor vehicle** and malicious destruction activity thus far in 2004. The majority of these breaks involved the smashing of a window, possibly with the use of rocks and/or cinderblocks and stereos and cell phones are the primary targets of theft.
- A trend that was recorded in the first quarter of the year was **larcenies from area hospitals**. Thirteen incidents were reported in the first quarter; six of those occurred at Mt. Auburn Hospital. This trend has since dissipated.
- Several **larcenies from persons** patterns emerged throughout the city in the early months of the year. Pickpockets emerged on weekend summer afternoons in Harvard Square, targeting females dining in restaurants and cafes in the afternoon and early evening hours.

Auto Theft:

- A 2% increase in auto theft was recorded compared to last year, however this crime is down 10% since 2001.
- Hondas and Acuras were again among the most commonly stolen vehicle in Cambridge, consistent with national trends.
- Housebreaks that also resulted in auto thefts have become a trend in Cambridge since the beginning of the second quarter of 2004. There have been 5 such incidents in 2004 to date. Previous to that, Cambridge reported 6 total incidents from 1997-2003.

JANUARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2004

HOUSEBREAK PATTERN REVIEW

Through the first nine months of 2004, housebreaks have increased 26% (88 additional incidents) in Cambridge. The majority of this increase incurred in the first quarter of the year when 50 additional incidents and an 86% incline was recorded. This increase should be weighed against the statistical fact the 2003 first quarter total (three major snowstorms) was the low water mark for this crime in over thirty years. During the second and third quarters of 2004, a number of housebreak patterns were identified and quickly eradicated with arrests. If the devastating housebreak patterns that plagued the city in the Fall of 2003 does not reemerge in 2004, the Crime Analysis Unit is projecting that this target crime will fall from its present level of +26% to the vicinity of +13% at the end of the year.

JANUARY & FEBRUARY: The first two months of the year are usually fairly quiet for housebreaks. Over the past decade, Cambridge has been averaging close to sixty residential breaks for the first two months of the year, there were sixty-six recorded in 2004. Of the most notable breaks for the two months, related incidents involved forced entry to apartments during the daytime in which laptops were targeted. That activity was particularly concentrated between **Central** and **Inman Squares**.

MARCH: The fact that housebreaks had increased should be weighed against the fact that the 2003 First Quarter total of 65 incidents was the low water mark for this crime in over thirty years. The only pattern identified in March involved a series of daytime breaks in the **Mid-Cambridge**, however, this series dissipated by the middle of the month. The **Peabody** section of Sector 5 had been the hottest area for housebreaks over the first three months of the year.

APRIL: There were thirty-eight housebreaks in April. In the beginning of the month, the **Central Square** and **Cambridgeport** areas were the busiest parts of the city for housebreaks. Two men were arrested Mid-April on Windsor Street, following neighbor complaints of noise. The two men, one homeless and the other from Jamaica Plain, consorted to break into the home and steal electronics.

MAY: No major patterns emerged, as incidents were spread throughout the city. Small clusters formed in **Cambridgeport**, around **Inman Square**, and near Porter Square, all common hotspots for burglary. As usual, most incidents occurred mid-day during the week.

JUNE & JULY: Several arrests were made during the summer, for different patterns that emerged during late June into July. A Somerville man was arrested for a series of housebreaks that were taking place in both Somerville and Cambridge, around the **Inman Square** border. The accused not only broke into the homes at night but was also reported to have assaulted victims. Another arrest was made of an Allston man who was breaking into residences at night through windows, on and around Brattle Street, targeting silverware and automobiles. Those arrests ended the series of incidents in **Inman Square** and in **West Cambridge**. A final pattern emerged in **Peabody** where purses and cash were taken from homes where entry was forced.

AUGUST: The first two weeks of August showed a minor increase from the incidents to date compared to 2003, the concentration of which rested in the northern half of **Mid-Cambridge**. Additionally there was a brief rash of breaks in **East Cambridge** involving apartments/condos under construction. Multi-unit buildings were also targeted, where multiple apartments were entered.

SEPTEMBER: There were thirty-one housebreaks from September 16th to the 30th, making it the city's hottest crime. An **East Cambridge** pattern emerged and was brought to a halt upon the arrest of two Cambridge residents.

Crimes Reported in Cambridge

By Neighborhood

January 1 to September 30, 2004

Jan-Sept. 2004	Housebreaks	Street Robbery	Auto Theft	Larceny From MV	Malicious Destruction	Narcotics
East Cambridge	24	13	42	49	62	8
MIT	2	2	13	11	7	0
Inman/Harrington	43	4	35	40	56	11
Area 4	49	25	30	51	70	12
Cambridgeport	40	23	41	69	127	13
Mid-Cambridge	68	9	23	71	49	5
Riverside	35	16	24	31	46	11
Agassiz	34	3	5	32	13	1
Peabody	50	7	41	68	68	7
West Cambridge	32	5	29	47	51	5
North Cambridge	36	11	30	52	63	14
Cambridge Highlands	1	1	9	18	34	1
Strawberry Hill	9	1	5	8	12	2
TOTAL	423	120	327*	547*	658	91

* Note that there were 2 auto thefts and one larceny from MV where the location of the incident was unknown.

PATTERN REVIEW

JANUARY

- A Revere man was arrested in connection with sexual assaults in Harvard Square, most of which involved the groping of female Harvard students in the Square. The arrested person has confessed to having committed over 100 such crimes.
- Fast food restaurants and convenience stores were targeted in a spree of five commercial robberies in Cambridgeport. These incidents usually occurred in the evening, and were linked to a pattern on Commonwealth Avenue in Allston.

FEBRUARY

- Three Cambridge teens were arrested for a series of street robberies in Area 4. A plastic gun was used in these incidents.
- In late February, there were three “purse snatchings” in the Inman Square area. On March 2, two Cambridge youths were arrested for a similar incident on Elm Street. It is unknown if they were responsible for the earlier robberies.

MARCH

- The City’s most notable street robbery pattern in 2004 occurred in March in Cambridgeport. Four occurred in a three-block area stretching from Watson Street south to Lawrence Street, and Magazine Street east to Perry Street. A Cambridge youth was arrested in connection with one of these robberies.
- A pattern of daytime residential breaks emerged in Mid-Cambridge, but dissipated in mid-March and has not resurfaced.

APRIL

- Central Square and Cambridgeport were hotspots for housebreaks in early April. Two burglars were arrested on Windsor Street in this time period.

MAY

- Larcenies from motor vehicles heated up in the Inman and Porter Square areas. Stereos were targeted in these incidents, which primarily targeted Hondas and Subarus.
- A local man was arrested for a street robbery at Russell Field in North Cambridge. A knife was used in this incident.

JUNE

- Three laptops were stolen in a one-week period from a Cambridge College building on Mass Avenue.
- Automobile-related crimes heated up in the Fresh Pond Mall parking lots in West Cambridge. An auto theft was reported from this location, and multiple larcenies from motor vehicles and malicious destruction incidents occurred here. Much of the activity occurred during the day on weekends. A group of teens used rocks to smash car windows in several such incidents in mid-June.

JULY

- In Agassiz and Peabody in early July, there were four reports of all four tires stolen from Hondas and Acuras.
- A Somerville man arrested on July 20th is suspected of committing three housebreaks in Inman Square.
- Housebreak patterns emerged on Brattle Street in West Cambridge and in Peabody. The West Cambridge incidents tended to occur in the early morning hours while the victims slept. Entry was generally made through windows, and silverware was frequently targeted. The arrest of three Boston residents eradicated this pattern.
- Computers were targeted in the Peabody breaks, which were generally made by the prying of apartment front doors.

AUGUST

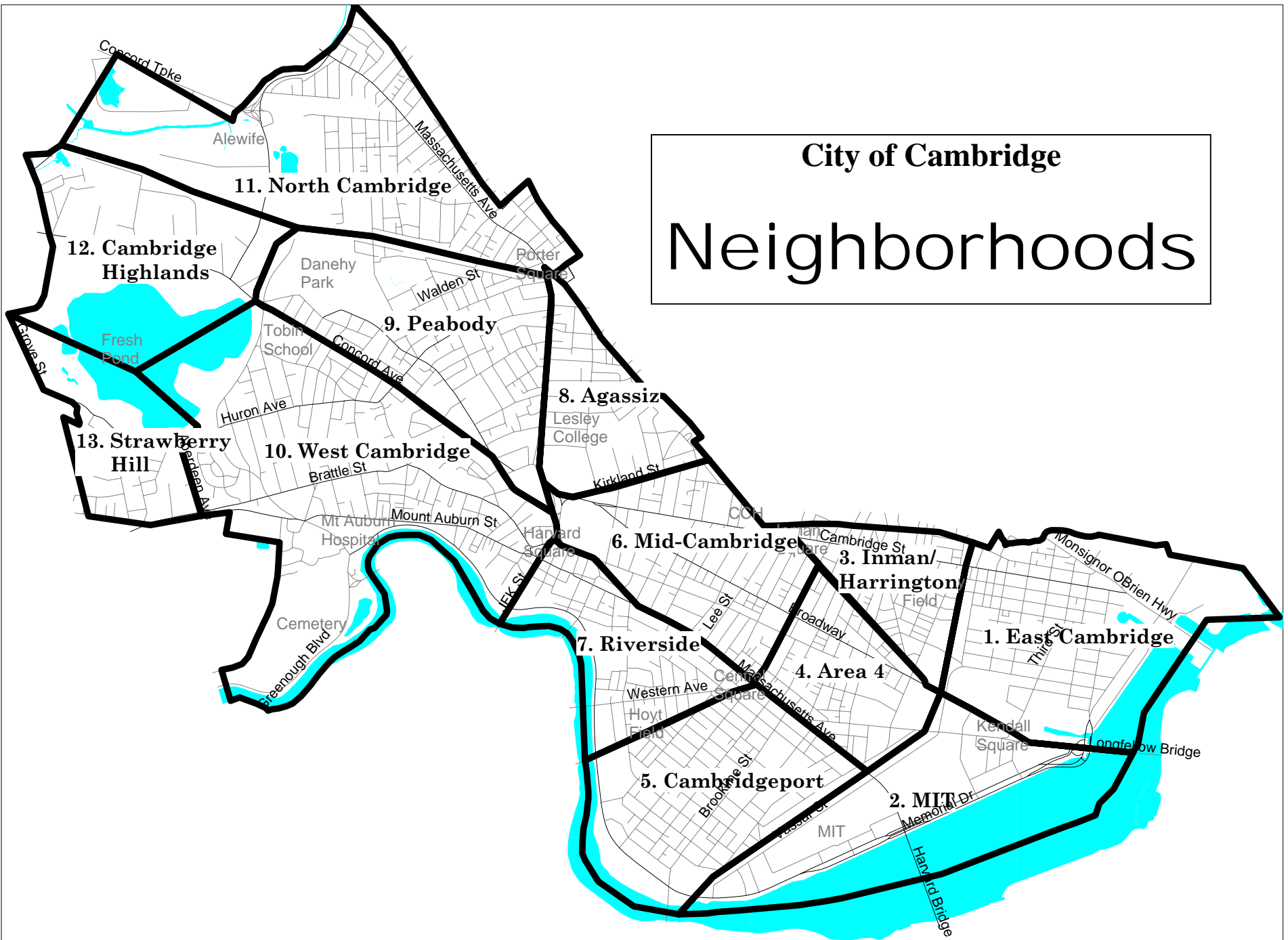
- Housebreak clusters emerged on small residential streets in Mid-Cambridge (Myrtle Avenue and Adams Terrace) and in East Cambridge early in the month.
- Six gas stations and convenience stores, spanning six different neighborhoods were robbed. Guns were used in four of the incidents. There are similar suspects in several of these robberies, but it is unknown if they are related.

SEPTEMBER

- Housebreaks heated up in the second half of the month, especially in East Cambridge. The arrest of a local teenager on October 1st appears to have curtailed this pattern. The arrested person was found in possession of items stolen from several of the targeted residences.
- Thirty-two tire slashings occurred over the second weekend of the month. Twenty-three were in Cambridgeport, with a three-block stretch including Fairmont Street and Chalk Street receiving much of the damage. Six CPD cruisers were also targeted in this spree.

City of Cambridge

Neighborhoods



Neighborhood Crimes Reported in Cambridge January-September 2000-2004

*Crime totals and accompanying narrative are a comprehensive review of the First Three Quarters of 2004

NEIGHBORHOOD 1:

EAST CAMBRIDGE

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	26	31	34	25	24
Street Robbery	10	12	9	10	13
Auto Theft	47	56	45	34	42
Larceny from MVs	76	61	69	103	49
Malicious Destruction	60	87	104	95	62
Drug Incidents	7	7	11	20	8

A late September-October **housebreak** pattern in the neighborhood dissipated with the arrest of a local teen found in possession of property stolen from a residence on Thorndike Street. The decrease in **malicious destruction** is partially due to a few sprees in BB gun-related incidents last year (18 in 2003, only 4 in 2004). **Larcenies from motor vehicles** decreased to the lowest number on recent record.

NEIGHBORHOOD 2:

M.I.T. Area

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	2	0	0	1	2
Street Robbery	1	2	0	2	2
Auto Theft	21	18	4	8	13
Larceny from MVs	18	25	10	18	11
Malicious Destruction	16	8	6	12	7
Drug Incidents	6	1	2	1	0

Only two **larcenies from motor vehicles** occurred on Vassar Street in the first three quarters of 2004, compared with nine the same period last year. The Cambridge Center garage remains a hotspot.

NEIGHBORHOOD 3:

Inman/Harrington

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	20	29	32	10	43
Street Robbery	16	7	10	6	4
Auto Theft	29	26	41	41	35
Larceny from MVs	18	26	28	23	40
Malicious Destruction	46	59	48	53	56
Drug Incidents	9	15	3	19	11

Willow Street and Bristol Street saw most of the **larcenies from motor vehicles** in Inman/Harrington. A January housebreak pattern spiked the numbers, after a record-low total in 2003.

NEIGHBORHOOD 4:

Area 4

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	40	54	41	30	49
Street Robbery	23	18	23	22	25
Auto Theft	69	64	50	46	30
Larceny from MVs	88	82	62	34	51
Malicious Destruction	97	97	88	76	70
Drug Incidents	23	17	13	19	12

Housebreaks ballooned slightly after an unusually quiet 2003. The Lafayette Square area, formerly an **auto theft** hotspot, reported less activity in the first nine months of 2004.

NEIGHBORHOOD 5:

Cambridgeport

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	34	39	59	38	40
Street Robbery	16	19	9	29	23
Auto Theft	46	57	50	58	41
Larceny from MVs	72	76	54	66	69
Malicious Destruction	80	90	105	111	127
Drug Incidents	21	9	13	14	13

The **malicious destruction** increase can be primarily attributed to a large spree of tire slashing, which included 26 incidents from September 9-12, most of them on Fairmont and Chalk streets.

NEIGHBORHOOD 6:

Mid-Cambridge

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	55	81	76	69	68
Street Robbery	12	13	11	10	9
Auto Theft	30	34	19	27	23
Larceny from MVs	47	65	109	59	71
Malicious Destruction	69	82	102	66	49
Drug Incidents	11	14	8	3	5

A lack of **malicious destruction** sprees contributed to the mere 49 incidents reported in the first nine months of 2004. A two-week period in March accounted for eight of the **housebreaks**; this pattern was clustered in a small area west of Inman Square.

NEIGHBORHOOD 7:

Riverside

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	26	45	31	28	35
Street Robbery	15	8	9	12	16
Auto Theft	16	42	29	24	24
Larceny from MVs	19	27	33	22	31
Malicious Destruction	65	85	71	52	46
Drug Incidents	11	18	13	13	11

Malicious destruction decreased slightly compared to recent trends, despite a small tire slashing spree in mid-September targeting mostly police cars. Businesses along Mass Avenue are targeted in much of this neighborhood's vandalism.

NEIGHBORHOOD 8:

Agassiz

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	14	13	38	14	34
Street Robbery	1	4	5	2	3
Auto Theft	9	11	15	11	5
Larceny from MVs	17	25	40	21	32
Malicious Destruction	20	24	19	10	13
Drug Incidents	1	0	2	1	1

Multiple **housebreaks** were reported on Eustis and Oxford Streets. A single day in March accounted for 5 incidents at a single location on Garfield Street.

NEIGHBORHOOD 9:

Peabody

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	27	20	48	38	50
Street Robbery	5	7	6	8	7
Auto Theft	26	30	25	20	41
Larceny from MVs	46	52	45	33	68
Malicious Destruction	40	74	91	57	68
Drug Incidents	8	8	2	6	7

Auto thefts were concentrated Lincoln Way and Walden Square Road. Stereos were targeted in a small May **larceny from motor vehicles** spree. The area between Chauncy and Langdon Streets is a hotspot for this crime.

NEIGHBORHOOD 10:**West Cambridge**

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	15	35	28	28	32
Street Robbery	6	7	11	7	5
Auto Theft	11	25	16	23	29
Larceny from MVs	41	31	39	39	47
Malicious Destruction	57	78	47	59	51
Drug Incidents	9	7	3	2	5

A pattern in the summer spiked the **housebreak** totals for West Cambridge; most of these incidents occurred during the nighttime and several were accompanied by **auto theft**. A spree of **malicious destruction** on Mount Auburn Street in April left several car windows smashed.

NEIGHBORHOOD 11:**North Cambridge**

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	27	29	47	46	36
Street Robbery	5	4	9	23	11
Auto Theft	26	36	36	24	30
Larceny from MVs	34	48	54	45	52
Malicious Destruction	76	96	91	76	63
Drug Incidents	7	11	7	6	14

Traditional **street robbery** hotspots (the Alewife MBTA Station, Russell Field, the Rindge Towers, and the 2400-block of Mass Avenue) have been cold for the first nine months of 2004. Arrests were made in four of the 11 street robberies.

NEIGHBORHOOD 12:**Cambridge Highlands**

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	0	0	1	3	1
Street Robbery	0	0	1	1	1
Auto Theft	11	10	2	3	9
Larceny from MVs	16	10	10	15	18
Malicious Destruction	20	8	18	21	34
Drug Incidents	2	3	1	1	1

This neighborhood remained quiet with the exception of **malicious destruction** incidents; which were heavily focused in Fresh Pond Mall parking lots. A spree of incidents in June at this location involved teens throwing rocks at cars, and an arrest was made in this area in September.

NEIGHBORHOOD 13:**Strawberry Hill**

CRIME	Jan-Sept 2000	Jan-Sept 2001	Jan-Sept 2002	Jan-Sept 2003	Jan-Sept 2004
Housebreaks	4	4	10	6	9
Street Robbery	0	1	2	2	1
Auto Theft	3	12	8	4	5
Larceny from MVs	10	10	7	9	8
Malicious Destruction	24	26	13	20	12
Drug Incidents	2	1	3	2	2

Malicious destruction dropped to 12 incidents in 2004. Several of these incidents (on Park Avenue) may have been revenge-motivated.